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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**13 APRIL 2018**

(U) CALIFORNIA**(U) Modesto – FBI Operation in Stanislaus Nets Arrests in Interstate Drug-Trafficking Operation**

(U) At least six people were arrested in Stanislaus County on 11 April by FBI agents assisted by Modesto and Turlock police. The six arrested were charged in a sealed indictment with multistate drug trafficking organization with conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute controlled substances, including methamphetamine, cocaine, and heroin, according to the US Attorney's Office. Agents served search warrants in multiple locations, and investigators seized 45 pounds of meth, four pounds of heroin, and three pounds of cocaine.

SOURCE: 12 April 2018, [Modesto Bee](#)

(U) Sacramento – Backpage.com CEO Pleads Guilty, Will Testify Against Others

(U) The chief executive of Backpage.com pleaded guilty to state and federal charges including conspiracy and money laundering, and agreed to testify in ongoing prosecutions against others at the website that authorities have dubbed a lucrative nationwide "online brothel," authorities said. Backpage brought in a half-billion dollars since it began in 2004, mostly through prominent risqué advertising for escorts and massages, among other services and some goods for sale. Authorities allege the site was often used to traffic underage victims.

SOURCE: 12 April 2018, [SF Gate](#)

(U) San Diego – 2 Marijuana Delivery Businesses Raided by San Diego Police

(U) San Diego police raided two illegal marijuana delivery businesses operating out of apartments on 11 April. Officers in the police department's Narcotics Unit served search warrants at apartments near Bay Ho and in Pacific Beach, which were both operating as a cannabis delivery service called Pacific Highlife, according to police. Officers seized seven pounds of high-grade marijuana, a pound and a half of concentrated cannabis, \$3,000 cash, and business documents. There are 18 dispensaries that have been approved to operate in San Diego, with 14 currently open.

SOURCE: 12 April 2018, [San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) Texas – Cartel Leader Sentenced to Prison in Dallas Court**

(U) Dallas – The leader of a drug cartel, La Familia Michoacan, whose arrest led to tortures and killings of Mexican police officers, was sentenced to 43 years in prison on drug and money laundering charges on 11 April in Dallas. Arnoldo Rueda-Medina, also known as "La Minsa," 48, was also fined \$5 million. Rueda-Medina pleaded guilty in 2017 to charges of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance and conspiracy to launder monetary instruments. Rueda-Medina held a leadership position in the cartel from September 2007 to October 2009.

SOURCE: 11 April 2018, [WFAA 8](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Mexico – 14 Dead in 36-Hour Span in Tourist Hot Spot of Cancún**

(U) Cancún – Violence rocked Mexico's most popular tourist town, with 14 dead and five more injured in a 36-hour span. The deaths and injuries were the result of six separate incidents between the morning of 4 April and the evening of 5 April. Nine people were killed on 4 April alone. In the past decade, the highest number of people killed in a single day in Cancún was five. The killings are thought to be linked to organized crime. Nearly four million Americans traveled to Cancún in 2017, according to the US Department of Commerce.

SOURCE: 12 April 2018, [Fox 8](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-874-1100.

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